

THE HERITAGE TRAIL

Placer County Museums Tour

TRAIL GUIDE

AUGUST 7&8, 2010




10:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

19 MUSEUMS - ROSEVILLE TO TAHOE!



WELCOME TRAIL TRAVELERS!

We are glad you decided to join us on the 2010 Heritage Trail Museums Tour. This year 19 museums from Roseville to Tahoe are committed to showcasing history in a fun and entertaining way. For many, this event has become a family tradition. Whether you are from Auburn, Reno, San Francisco, or Boston, you will enjoy this opportunity to take a trip back in time and get a better understanding of Placer County's rich and colorful history. Each museum on the tour is unique. Aside from immersing yourselves in history, you will enjoy the variety of settings at each museum. The ones located in the mountains are especially beautiful.

Many of the museums will offer food and beverages including cookies, hand churned ice cream, shortcake, root beer floats, Indian fry bread, lemonade and water. Most museums have restroom facilities available. Look for the symbols , , &  in the museum description.

The museums are grouped in three clusters and are easy to reach from Interstate 80. Five Valley Museums are located in South Placer. Six Auburn Museums are located within one mile of the Historic Courthouse. Eight Mountain Museums are located in the Sierra Nevada and the north shore of Lake Tahoe. We encourage you to visit several museums during the two day event. This Trail Guide will help you find your way and we invite you back to visit those museums that you missed any time during the year.

Thanks again for joining us. We hope you have a great time!

Melanie Barton
Placer County Museums Administrator
Chairperson, The Heritage Trail

TRAIL TIPS

The following Trail Tips will help you plan your day.

- For the most up to date information on The Heritage Trail, visit our blog at theheritagetrail.blogspot.com.
- You can begin at any of the 19 participating museums which are identified by red, white and blue trail signs and banners.
- All directions are from Interstate 80 going west to east. Maps are included.
- For questions during the event, call any museum. A phone number is listed for each.
- Eating, drinking and smoking are not permitted in the museums.
- Leave pets at home.
- You'll want to bring your camera. Inquire at each museum for flash photography guidelines.
- Be sure to pick up your FREE Get Up & Go card at the first museum you visit.

Enjoy the Trail!

MUSEUMS

VALLEY MUSEUMS

1. Maidu Museum & Historic Site
2. Roseville Historical Society Carnegie Museum
3. Roseville Telephone Museum
4. Rocklin History Museum
5. Griffith Quarry Museum

AUBURN MUSEUMS

6. Placer County Museum
7. Gold Country Medical History Museum
8. Auburn Joss House Museum
9. Bernhard Museum Complex
10. Gold Country Museum
11. The Benton Welty Schoolroom

MOUNTAIN MUSEUMS

12. Forest Hill Divide Museum
13. Colfax Area Heritage Museum
14. Golden Drift Museum
15. Big Bend Visitor Center
16. Donner Summit Historical Society Museum
17. Western SkiSport Museum
18. Watson Cabin
19. Gatekeeper's Museum

PRIZE DRAWINGS

DON'T FORGET, YOU HAVE TWO CHANCES TO WIN PRIZES DURING THIS WEEKEND'S MUSEUMS TOUR.

First, make sure to pick up a FREE "Get Up & Go" card at the first museum you visit. After visiting four different museums and getting your card stamped at each, you will be eligible to enter a grand-prize drawing for one of three gift baskets.

Second, visitors may purchase tickets at many museums (not all) for another drawing. Those museums participating have created unique gift baskets filled to the brim with prizes.

Winners need not be present to win either drawing.

1 MAIDU MUSEUM & HISTORIC SITE

1960 Johnson Ranch Drive, Roseville 
916-774-5934 • www.roseville.ca.us/indianmuseum

The new Maidu Museum's round design honors the Native California roundhouse. Opened in February 2010, it offers new cultural heritage exhibits, Indigenous Art Gallery, gift shop, a 30 acre historic site, an ancient Indian village site featuring petroglyphs (rock art) and hundreds of bedrock mortars.

Saturday & Sunday

Guided Historic Site Tours: 10:00 and 1:00

Guided Museum Tours: 11:30 and 2:30

Children's Activity Tables: Stave Games, Beaded Bracelets, and Acorn Grinding throughout the day.

Directions: I-80 to Douglas East to Rocky Ridge. Turn right (south) on Rocky Ridge. Watch for Johnson Ranch Drive sign. Turn left onto Johnson Ranch Drive. The Maidu Museum and Historic Site is the next building past the Maidu Elementary School.

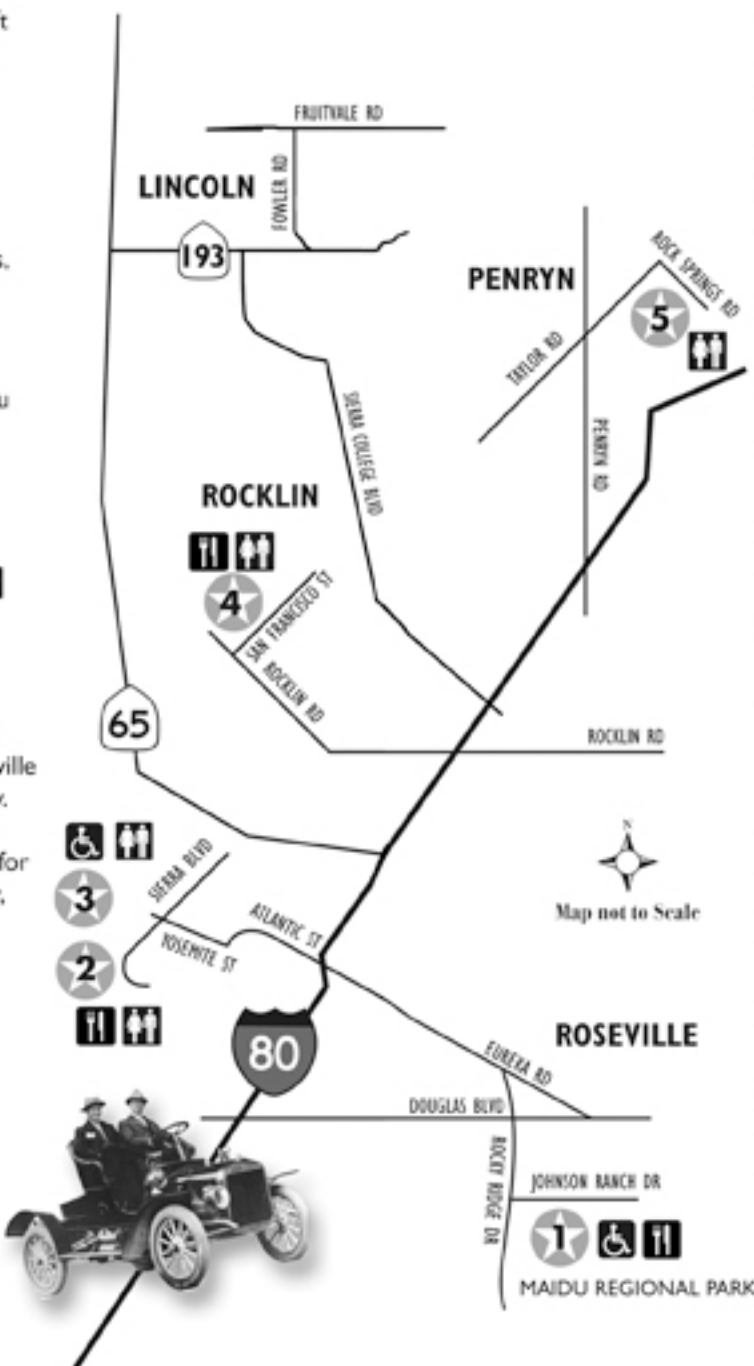
2 ROSEVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY CARNEGIE MUSEUM

557 Lincoln Street, Roseville • 916-773-3003
www.rosevillehistorical.org

Come get a taste of history from the home town of the SP Railroad. The Carnegie Museum is home to the Roseville Historical Society and the Roseville Genealogical Society. Just released! *Images of America in Roseville* from Arcadia Publishing will be available along with other local books for purchase. Check out trains, planes, a horse drawn surrey, and lots more!

Directions: Take Atlantic St. Exit West. Turn right on Yosemite St. Left at Sierra Blvd stop sign. Go over the Sierra Vista Bridge (crooked bridge); the Carnegie Museums will be on the right. Park on the street or in lot by the Moose Lodge.

VALLEY MUSEUMS



3 ROSEVILLE TELEPHONE MUSEUM

106 Vernon Street, Roseville • 916-786-1621 
www.rosevilletelephonemuseum.org

From magnetos to Mickey Mouse and everything in between, come absorb a little bit of telephone history. Presented by SureWest, this is among the most extensive collections of antique telephones and memorabilia in the nation. It's fun, exciting and educational. Guided tours will be available.

Directions: From eastbound I-80, take Atlantic Street-Eureka Road exit. Go west on Atlantic, stay straight to go onto Vernon Street. End at 106 Vernon Street. The museum will be on your right.

4 ROCKLIN HISTORY MUSEUM

3895 Rocklin Road, Rocklin • 916-624-3464 
www.rocklinhistory.org

Explore Rocklin's history of rock, rails and ranches. See tools and images from when Rocklin was the "Granite Capitol of the West." View our "Gold, Granite and Grit" video to see Joel Parker Whitney's 27,000 acre Spring Valley Ranch. Learn about the Central Pacific Roundhouse. Granite splitting demonstration by Roy Ruhkala Saturday 10:30 & Sunday 2:30.

Directions: From I-80, take the Rocklin Road exit. Turn west on Rocklin Road. The museum is one quarter mile down at the intersection of Rocklin Road and San Francisco Street, across from the City Hall.

5 GRIFFITH QUARRY MUSEUM

Taylor and Rock Springs Roads, Penryn
530-889-6500 • www.placer.ca.gov/museum


Step back in time, literally, at the beautiful 23 acre Griffith Quarry Park and Museum this weekend! Come see our exhibits highlighting the early history of the granite industry in Placer County.

Sunday 11:00 Guided walking tour of quarry.

Directions: From I-80 eastbound take the Penryn exit, turn left on Penryn Road then right on Taylor (approx 1/2 mile). Follow Taylor Road to top of hill, then right on Rock Springs. Entrance to Quarry will be on your immediate right.

6 PLACER COUNTY MUSEUM   
 101 Maple Street • 530-889-6500
theheritagetrail.blogspot.com

Located in the Historic Courthouse in Auburn this museum offers fun activities for people of all ages. View the women's jail where Alma Bell (incarcerated for killing her boyfriend) shares her tale of woe. The mysteries of Hawver Cave will be explored in an on-going film presented by Gene Lawrence. Author Jody Horner will be selling and signing Golden Corridor books. Root Beer Floats served outside from noon to 4:00!

7 GOLD COUNTRY MEDICAL HISTORY MUSEUM 

219-100 Maple Street • 530-887-1915
www.goldcountrymedicalmuseum.com

You can participate in demonstrations and hands on use of old medical instruments. Watch a demonstration of electrical shock treatments with a real violet ray instrument. You might even see a leech or two! Enjoy a slide show of medical history over the last 400 years. New displays include an operating table, medical books and medicinal herbs.

8 AUBURN JOSS HOUSE CHINESE MUSEUM

200 Sacramento Street • 530-823-0373

The Joss House Museum and Chinese History Center is dedicated to preserving the Chinese history of Auburn and Placer County. Inside the historic batten and board building are artifacts and displays that reveal the customs, lifestyles and culture of the Chinese Community. Visitors can enjoy having their fortune told using Chinese fortune sticks. The Joss House will be handing out coupons for free samples of ice cream at Old Town Dessert Café.

AUBURN MUSEUMS



9 BERNHARD MUSEUM   
 291 Auburn-Folsom Rd. • 530-889-6500
theheritagetrail.blogspot.com

Join the fun! Churn homemade ice cream and prepare shortcake in our wood burning stove. Peruse the quilt show, tour the museum and enjoy the wagon collection on display from the Native Sons of the Golden West. Enjoy sack races and 19th century games all day. Wine tasting is available at the Baumbach Winery.

10 GOLD COUNTRY MUSEUM  
 1273 High St. • 530-889-6500
theheritagetrail.blogspot.com

Roll up your sleeves and get ready to strike it rich! At the Gold Country Museum you will hear the banging of our stamp mill and feel the cold water on your hands as you pan for gold. Challenge our docents to a Gold Rush era card game or relax with a glass of lemonade.

11 THE BENTON WELTY SCHOOLROOM  
 1225 Lincoln Way • 530-885-4246

Visitors will get a sense of "school days" in the early 1900's. The Benton Welty Schoolroom is packed with photos, student scrapbooks, maps and old schoolbooks. Visitors can try their hand at string games and penmanship exercises. There will be handouts for coloring and copies of punishments for breaking the rules.

GENERAL DIRECTIONS:

For all of the Auburn museums except the Benton Welty Schoolroom, take the Maple Street off-ramp from eastbound I-80. Follow the brochure map to locate museums. For the schoolroom, exit at Highway 49 and head south one block to City Hall. The museum is on the second floor of City Hall.

12 FOREST HILL DIVIDE MUSEUM

24601 Harrison Street, Foresthill

530-367-3988 • www.placer.ca.gov/museum

Watch the blacksmiths craft period tools and implements and try your hand at gold panning. Be sure to visit the new fire truck display as well as our fascinating gold rush and lumber history exhibits. Bring your picnic and enjoy the park that surrounds the museum. Enjoy Indian fry bread.

Saturday & Sunday

11am, 2pm: Walking tour.

Directions: From eastbound I-80, take the Foresthill exit #121 in Auburn. Head east on the Foresthill Road (17 miles). Turn left at Gold Street and right on Harrison. The museum is on the left next to the historic chapel.

13 COLFAX AREA HERITAGE MUSEUM

99 Railroad Street, Colfax • 530-346-8599

Colfax is celebrating 100 years of incorporation. Special displays will be photos of the early days as a city, stories of the people and events of the first decade and actual record books of business licenses, births, deaths, minutes and more. Living History and music too! Featuring the "Best Cookie" of 1900-1910.

Directions: From I-80 take Colfax exit #135. Go right until you cross over the freeway and come to the stop sign at Auburn Street. Turn right and go to next stop sign. Turn left onto Railroad Street. Just after the big Colfax Hotel (closed) and before crossing the railroad tracks. Museum in the Passenger Depot.

MOUNTAIN MUSEUMS

DUTCH FLAT

14

13

15

16

12

80

AUBURN

FORESTHILL

Map not to Scale



14 GOLDEN DRIFT MUSEUM

32820 Main St., Dutch Flat • 530-389-2126

www.placer.ca.gov/museum

A stop in Dutch Flat is like stepping back in time. This museum is dedicated to the history of Gold Run, Dutch Flat, Alta, Towle and Baxter. Displays include a photo gallery, Indian projectile points, fraternal organization memorabilia, Chinese Joss House artifacts, mining history and the building of the Central Pacific Railroad. Refreshments will be served.

Saturday & Sunday: 11:00 Docent led half hour walking tour of historic Dutch Flat.

Directions: From eastbound I-80, take the Dutch Flat Exit. Travel Ridge Road 1/3 mile and turn left onto Sacramento Street. One mile down, in Dutch Flat, the road turns sharply to right and becomes Main Street. The museum is up two blocks on the right.

15 BIG BEND VISITOR CENTER TAHOE NATIONAL FOREST

49685 Hampshire Rocks Rd., Soda Springs

530-426-3609 • www.fs.fed.us/r5/tahoe/recreation/big_bend/index.shtml

The Big Bend Visitor center is host to a variety of exhibits that explore the transportation history of the area. In addition to the museum, enjoy the national forest and guided walks planned for this weekend.

Saturday

10am: Film: *Early Auto Trips to Tahoe*

2pm: Film: *Forgotten Journey, the Stephens Townsend-Murphy Saga*

Sunday

10:30am: Junior Ranger program on fire safety

1:30pm: Wagon road walking tour.

Directions: From I-80 eastbound take the Big Bend exit, approximately 45 miles from Auburn. Turn left at the stop sign and find the Center on the left, approx. 1/2 mile from the stop sign.

16 DONNER SUMMIT   
HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM
 21501 Donner Pass Road • 530-277-4015
www.donnersummithistoricalsociety.org

Our museum features the many transportation routes over Donner Pass and development of the ski industry with pictures, postcards, displays, family histories, posters, and early ski/snow equipment. We have an espresso machine and will serve all sorts of coffees, mochas and hot chocolate.

Saturday & Sunday

"How the ski industry started on Donner Summit"
 ongoing talk led by Norm Saylor

"How the Railroad Changed the Way America Lived"
 ongoing slide show

Directions: On eastbound I-80, 55 miles east of Auburn, take exit 174 (Soda Springs/Norden) Drive approximately 0.6 miles to the intersection of Donner Pass Road & Soda Springs Rd. Look for blinking yellow light. The Museum is on the right, next to the historic Soda Springs Hotel, now Soda Springs Station.

17 WESTERN SKISPORT MUSEUM  
 I-80 Castle Peak Exit, Boreal Mt. Resort
 530-426-3313 x113


Immerse yourself in the history of Sierra Nevada winter sports dating back to 1853 when miners introduced skis to the gold camps. On 14' "longboards" miners reached speeds of 80 mph. See the mailbag and skis John "Snowshoe" Thompson used to carry the mail between Genoa and Placerville. Over 20 exhibits from the WWII 10th Mountain Division to local ski champions awaits.

On-going showing of vintage ski movies including newly restored 1960 Squaw Valley Olympic footage.

Directions: Two miles east of Soda Springs, exit I-80 at the Castle Peak exit, turn right into the Boreal Mt. Resort parking lot; look for the Snowshoe Thompson monument next to the museum.

MOUNTAIN MUSEUMS



18 WATSON CABIN 
 560 North Lake Blvd., Tahoe City
 560-583-1762 • www.northtahoemuseums.org
 Built in 1909, the Watson Cabin is the oldest building constructed on-site in Tahoe City and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Today it houses exhibits about the Watson family and their role in Lake Tahoe history along with summer programming for the whole family. This summer the Watson Cabin will also have a photographic exhibit documenting the history and development of Tahoe City.

Directions: Take I-80 east towards Reno. Exit Highway 89-south towards Squaw Valley and Lake Tahoe. As you approach Tahoe City go straight through the stoplight. Watson Cabin is on the right, in the middle of town, above Commons Beach.



Come take a ride on the Heritage Trail!



MOUNTAIN MUSEUMS

19 GATEKEEPER'S MUSEUM

130 West Lake Blvd., Tahoe City

530-583-1762 • www.northtahoemuseums.org

The Gatekeeper's Museum, featuring the Marion Steinbach Indian Basket Collection, is a reconstruction of the original gatekeepers cabin/home who controlled the flow of water out of Lake Tahoe. Today, the museum showcases Tahoe history from its Native American inhabitants through the logging era and establishment of the tourism industry in Tahoe Basin.

The Steinbach Indian Basket Collection displays an incredible collection of over 800 vintage and contemporary Native American baskets, jewelry, pottery, dolls and more throughout western North America. The collection is one of the most complete on display in North America.

Saturday & Sunday Docent tours are available at 11:00, 1:00 and 3:00

Directions: Take I-80 east towards Reno. Exit highway 89 south towards Squaw Valley and Lake Tahoe. As you approach Tahoe City veer right onto West Lake Blvd. Cross the Truckee River and the museum is the first left turn.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- This is a self guided tour and your participation is voluntary. Please do not hold the Tour Committee, presenters or museum partners responsible for any injury to you, your family, or property.
- You and your family may be photographed during the event and these photos are the property of the Placer County Museums Division.

THANKS

We want to thank the many museum officials and volunteers who helped make this event possible. We owe a special thank you to the **County of Placer, SureWest, Native Sons of the Golden West, and Capitol Public Radio**, for their generous support.



Auburn
Parlor #59

SureWest

